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#3
PRESENT WAR
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TERMINATOR® 2
JUDGMENT DAY
CYBERNETIC DAWN
WHIGHAM
DIRECT EDITION
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ABNETT • WHIGHAM • SNIDER

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JOHN! JOHN! GET DOWN! STAY DOWN!
Weatherby. Did he mean it when he said he believed me?
Moot point, now walking proof has shot him dead.
I try to catch his partner's eye...
...no joy. All he can see is his friend's butchered corpse.
BRAAAKKK
It's out of ammo.
Three seconds to reload, tops.
Chkk!
Chkk!

Make them count.
BLAMM
BAMM
BLAMM
BAMM
But they don't. They never do. There's never enough time.
SHLAKK
WHAT?!
CHKK!
WHHUUNNCH!
SKREEEEEEEEE

CONNOR! COME ON! COME ON, DAMMIT!
MOM?
GO! GO! GO! MOVE IT!
Oh MY GOD! Oh MY GOD!
DRIVE! DRIVE!
SHREEEEEEEEE
...REPEAT! OFFICER DOWN! MULTIPLE GUNSH--
Oh MY GOD! CHECK THIS OUT!

SCANNING
9004 46
5774 00
2554 61
5721 44
4571 99
0034 76
04992
48299
59285
28850
27499
00371
29778
SEARCH MODE
DROP IT! DROP IT NOW!
STOP! POLICE!
BAM
BAM BAM
BIKK
AGHH!
Blmm
Blmm
AYKK!
SHREEEEEE
5

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MOSSBERG.
THAT WAS FAST THINKING BACK THERE, MOSSBERG, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO DO MORE IF WE'RE GOING TO STAY ALIVE.
THAT WAS... ONE OF THOSE THINGS, WASN'T IT? LIKE WEATHERBY SAID.
RIGHT.
OH JESUS.
KEEP IT TOGETHER! IT'S IN THE CRUISER BEHIND US AND IT'S CLOSING.
I NEED YOU SHARP, MOSSBERG!
BFFUMMCH!
MOM!
AHHH!
B-TAM!

THERE! THERE! THE CONSTRUCTION SITE!
EVANS CONSTRUCTION
OKAY!
WHHUNNCHHKK!
COME ON! STAY TOGETHER! THROUGH TO THE LEFT!
WE'RE DEAD!
NO ONE DIES TILL I TELL THEM THEY CAN!
7

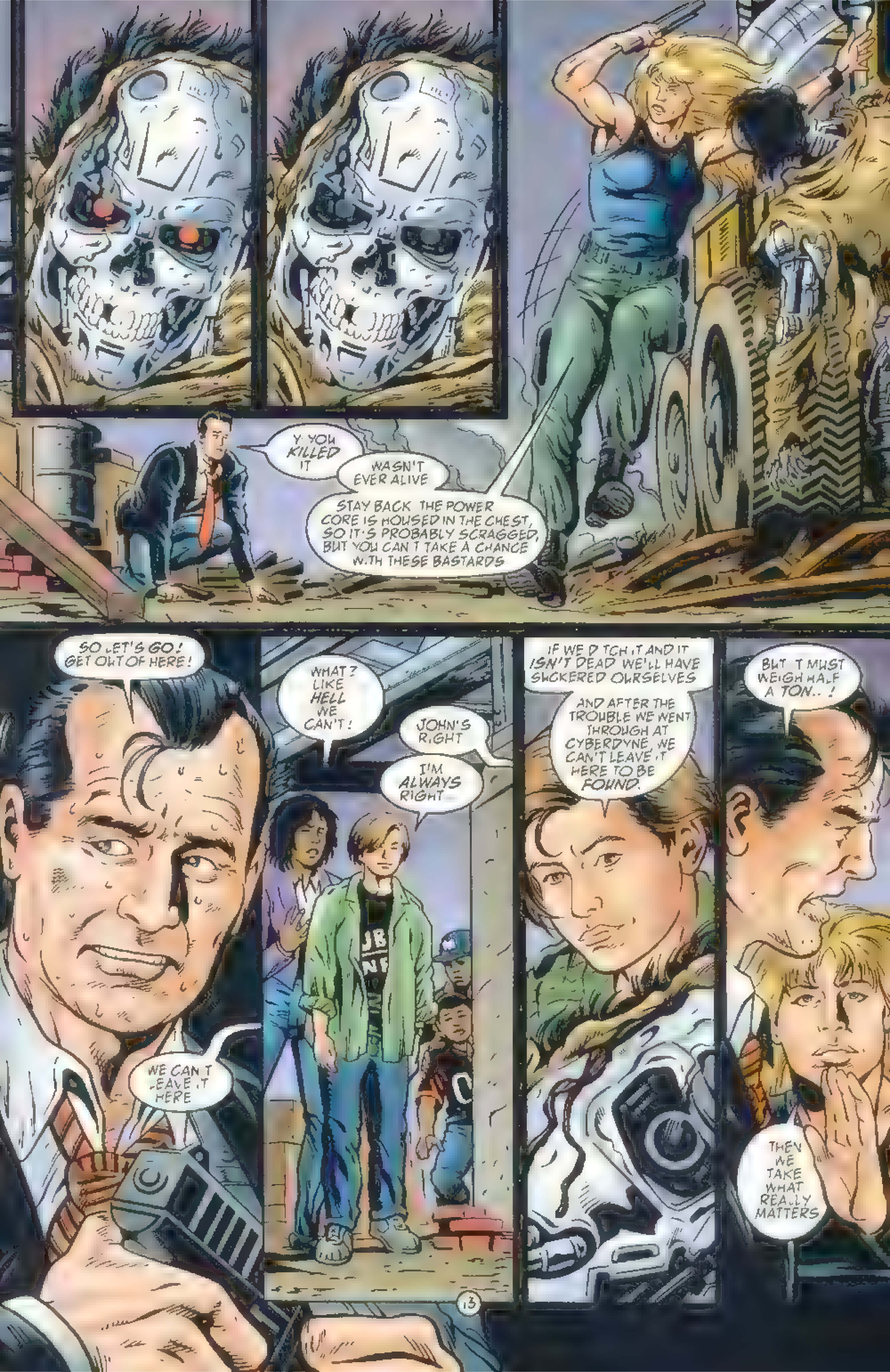
SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA.
EARLY START TODAY, MS. STERN?
NetWork DEVELOPMENTS
THAT'S RIGHT.
HAVE A NICE ONE.
THANKS. YOU TOO.
NW SECURITY
KARYN STERN SPEAKING.
KARYN! IT'S SPASKY! GET A LOAD OF THIS!
IT'S CONNOR! SHE SPRUNG THE DYSONS FROM THE SAFE HOUSE LOCATION!
BRRRP! BRRP!
WHERE ARE YOU?
IN PURSUIT! BUT THERE'S MORE! I THINK WE HAVE A FUNCTIONING UNIT DOWN HERE AFTER THEM!
SOMETHING TOOK THE COPS APART TO GET AT CONNOR! I MEAN IT, KARYN! A LIVE ONE! I'VE GOT SPECIAL OPS COMING IN TO BACK ME UP!
DID YOU HEAR ME, KARYN? A LIVE ONE!
I HEARD YOU.
KEEP ME INFORMED.
8

'BUD'
THWMMP!
One thing I've learned through all of this.
You can only run so far.
Running just gets you tired and delays the inevitable.
The only way to live is to turn and fight.
9

OVER HERE, YOU SON OF A BITCH!
BAMM! BAMM! BLAMM!
BOOOM! BOOOM!
GAAAH!
THUNNK! CHOOM
OH
GOD
HELP
RACHIKK
HAIL MARY FULL OF GRACE
10

BRRMMMFF!
BRRRMMMFM
MCHH!
WHMMCH!
COME ON
COME ON!
KLANG-GGNNCH!
11

NOOO!
KRUNTCHHH!

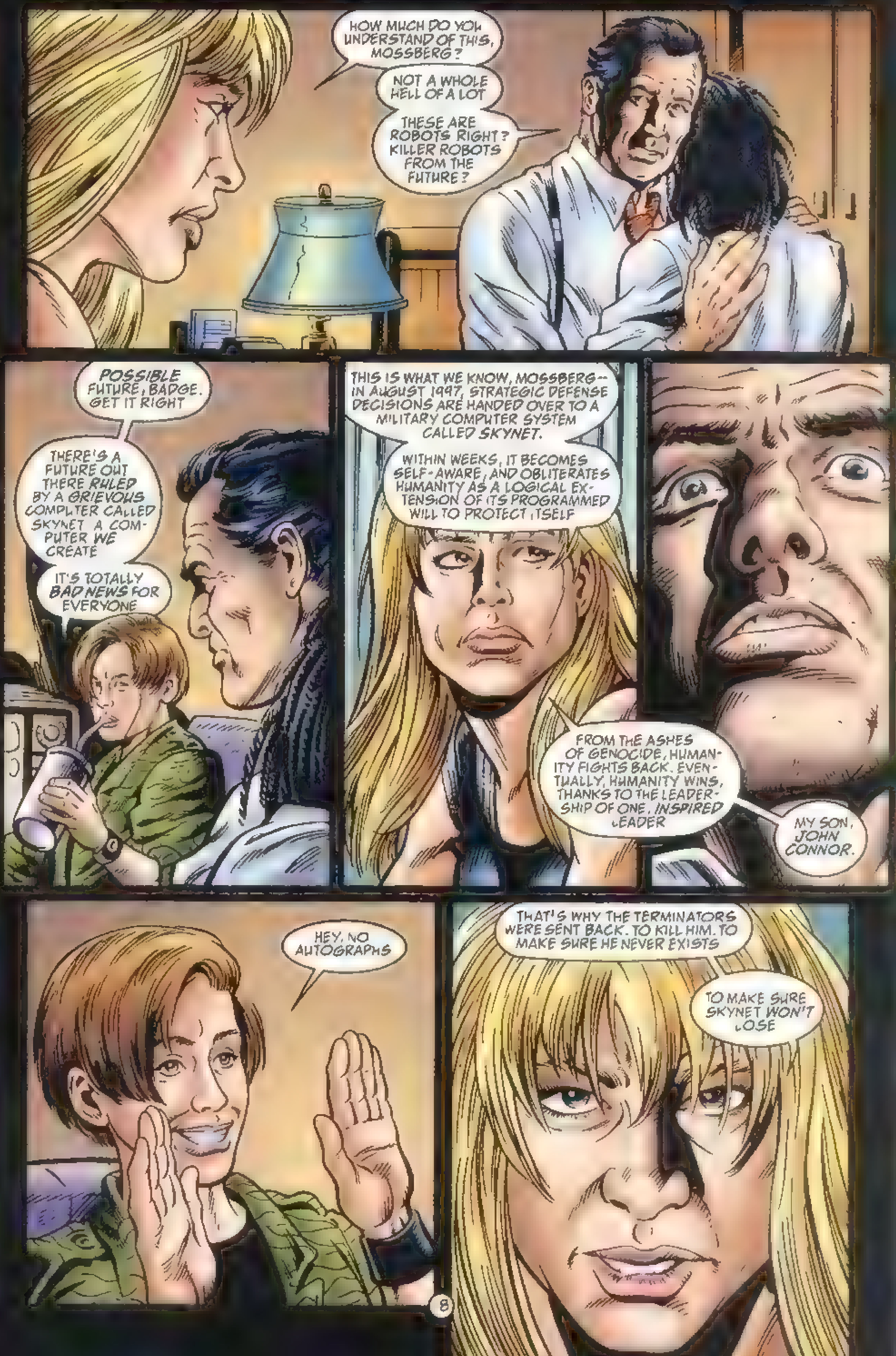

Y-YOU KILLED IT
WASN'T EVER ALIVE
STAY BACK. THE POWER CORE IS HOUSED IN THE CHEST, SO IT'S PROBABLY SCRAGGED, BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE WITH THESE BASTARDS
SO LET'S GO! GET OUT OF HERE!
WE CAN'T LEAVE IT HERE
WHAT? LIKE HELL WE CAN'T!
JOHN'S RIGHT
I'M ALWAYS RIGHT
IF WE DITCH IT AND IT ISN'T DEAD WE'LL HAVE SUCKERED OURSELVES
AND AFTER THE TROUBLE WE WENT THROUGH AT CYBERDYNE, WE CAN'T LEAVE IT HERE TO BE FOUND.
BUT IT MUST WEIGH HALF A TON..!
THEN WE TAKE WHAT REALLY MATTERS

CAREFUL!
DON'T HAVE A COW MOM JUST WATCH THE EYES IF YOU SEE RED...
...JOHN'S DEAD.
YES! AND THE CROWD GOES WILD!
CHAKK
AND FOR MY NEXT TRICK!
THAT'S ENOUGH, JOHN
KEEP IT SAFE NOW LET'S MOVE
WHERE D'YOU LEARN TO DO THAT?
MY UNCLE SHOWED ME HOW
The terminator's CPU was the one thing we couldn't let the authorities have
Working with only a damaged version, Miles Dyson had all but constructed the basis of Skynet. And then he gave his life to stop that from happening
But everything we won that night at Cyberdyne seems to have been lost again. This terminator's proof that the Skynet future's still fact
Despite the immediate threat of the sirens howling in the streets outside hunting for us, I need to know why
4

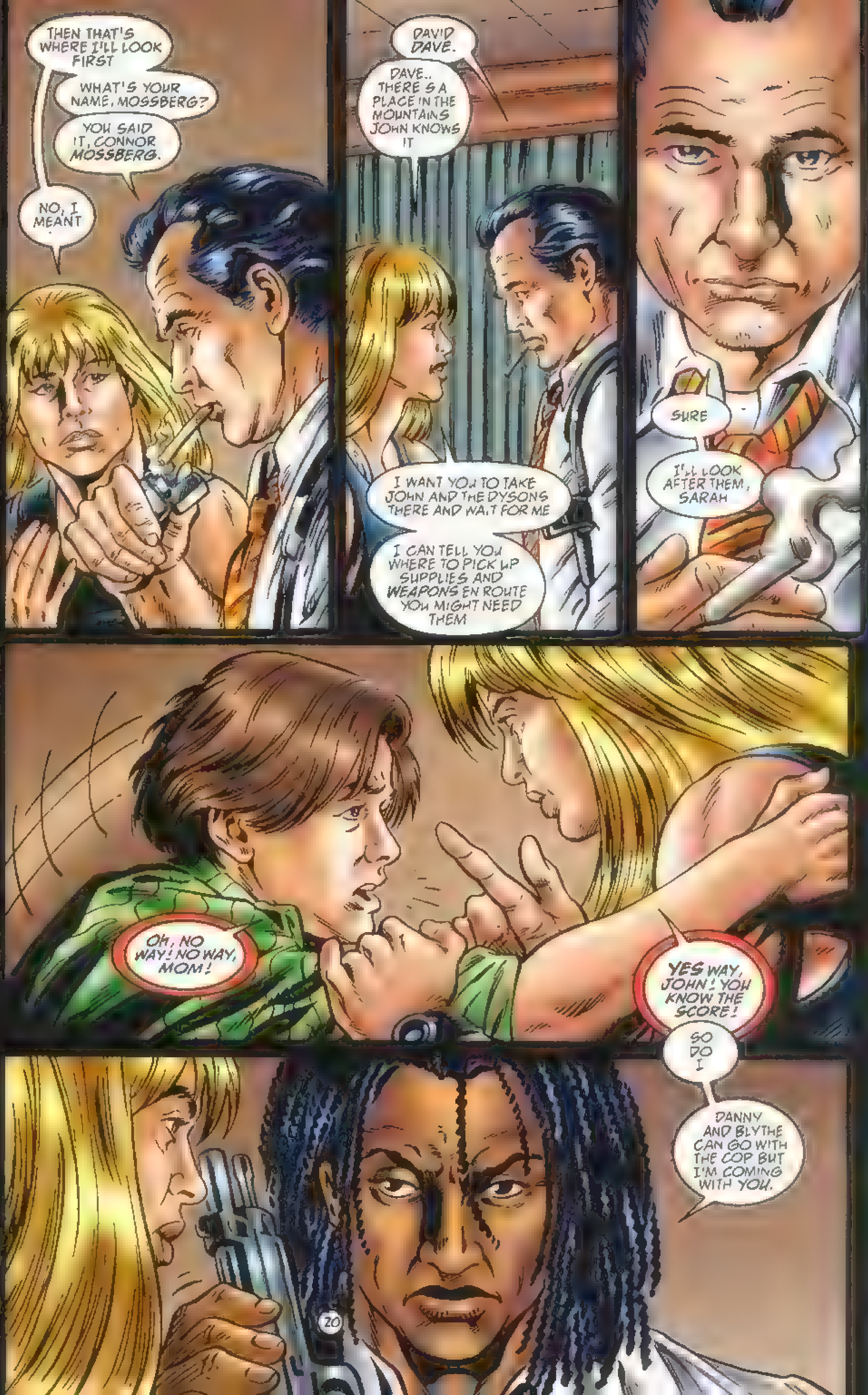
INSIDE NETWORK DEVELOPMENTS
YOU'LL HURT YOUR EYES, KARYN
WHAT?
YOU'RE SCROLLING THE SCREEN SO FAST, YOU'LL HURT YOUR EYES
YOU CAN'T BE TAKING ANYTHING IN
NO OF COURSE NOT
I'M JUST THINKING
KARYN! I'VE GOT SPASKY ON LINE FIVE!
PICK UP QUICK! HE SOUNDS LIKE HE'S GONNA HAVE A CORONARY!
SPASKY?
KARYN! I'M WITH SPECIAL OPS AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE OFF FAIRFAX!
WE'VE GOT ONE!
5

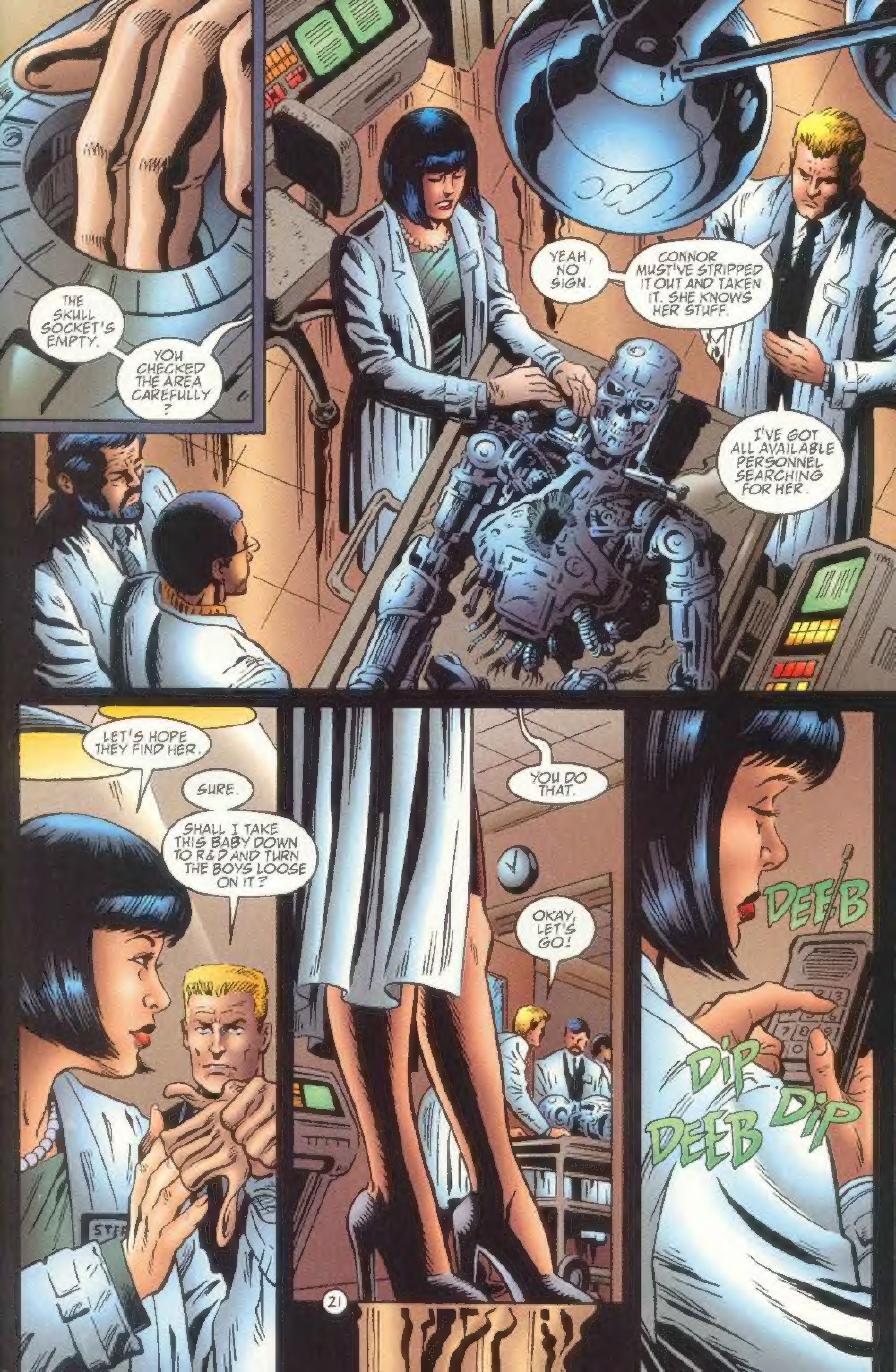
IT'S TAKEN A POUNDING, BUT EVERTHING SEEMS TO BE HERE! IT'S STILL GOT PARTS OF THE SYNTHETIC FLESH ATTACHED!
RETRIEVAL'S BAGGING IT UP RIGHT NOW! GET AN INSPECTION SUITE READY TO RECEIVE.
KARYN, THIS IS INCREDIBLE!
THE COPS ARE GOING MAD BECAUSE I WON'T LET THEM INTO THE SCENE! CAN YOU GET ON THE HORN TO CITY HALL AND PULL RANK?
OF COURSE
EXPECT US IN TWO HOURS
GOOD NEWS?
UM, YES GOOD NEWS.
6

We go to ground in a motel on the interstate
Running any further in daylight would leave us wide open to the authorities
Now we have a chance to piece things together
THE FEDS WERE ALL OVER THE MILL. WEATHERBY GOT INSIDE. HE SAW AN ARM, WEDGED IN SOME GEARS.
THAT WAS WHAT CONVINCED HIM.
THERE'S GOT TO BE MORE TO IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "MORE"?
THEY COULD LEARN A LOT FROM THE ARM... MECHANICAL SYSTEMS, ALLOYS, PERIPHERAL ELECTRONICS.
BUT NOTHING ABOUT THE MACHINE'S BRAIN. NOTHING THAT COULD LEAD THEM TO SKYNET. SOMETHING ELSE MUST GIVE THEM THE EDGE.
A-ARE YOU SAYING MILES DIED FOR NOTHING?
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?!?
EASY! TAKE IT EASY!
C'MON, LADY, PLEASE.


HOW MUCH DO YOU UNDERSTAND OF THIS, MOSSBERG?
NOT A WHOLE HELL OF A LOT
THESE ARE ROBOTS RIGHT? KILLER ROBOTS FROM THE FUTURE?
POSSIBLE FUTURE, BADGE. GET IT RIGHT
THERE'S A FUTURE OUT THERE RULED BY A GRIEVOUS COMPUTER CALLED SKYNET. A COMPUTER WE CREATE
IT'S TOTALLY BAD NEWS FOR EVERYONE
THIS IS WHAT WE KNOW, MOSSBERG-- IN AUGUST 1997, STRATEGIC DEFENSE DECISIONS ARE HANDED OVER TO A MILITARY COMPUTER SYSTEM CALLED SKYNET.
WITHIN WEEKS, IT BECOMES SELF-AWARE, AND OBLITERATES HUMANITY AS A LOGICAL EXTENSION OF ITS PROGRAMMED WILL TO PROTECT ITSELF
FROM THE ASHES OF GENOCIDE, HUMANITY FIGHTS BACK. EVENTUALLY, HUMANITY WINS, THANKS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF ONE, INSPIRED LEADER
MY SON, JOHN CONNOR.
HEY, NO AUTOGRAPHS
THAT'S WHY THE TERMINATORS WERE SENT BACK. TO KILL HIM. TO MAKE SURE HE NEVER EXISTS
TO MAKE SURE SKYNET WON'T LOSE
8

BUT THAT WAS WHY YOU CAME AFTER MILES! TO STOP THIS SKYNET FROM HAPPENING!
YOU SAID HE WAS RESPON-SIBLE!
HE WAS! HE WAS! AND WE CHANGED THAT!
BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH! NOW THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE .SOME OTHER FACTOR THAT MEANS SKYNET WILL STILL COME TO BE!
BUT WE DESTROYED EVERYTHING ALL HIS NOTES, ALL HIS FILES
AND HE'S DEAD.
THE GOVERNMENT AGENTS QUESTIONED ME FOR SO LONG THEY WERE DESPERATE THEY CAN'T HAVE HAD ANY-THING LEFT.
THEN WE MUST HAVE MISSED SOMETHING
OR SOMETHING NEW HAS ENTERED THE PICTURE. AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START SEARCH-ING FOR IT.
THERE'S A PLACE IN SIMI VALLEY NETWORK DEVELOPMENTS WEATHERBY TRACKED IT DOWN THE FEDS WE WERE WATCHING WORKED OUT OF THERE
14


THEN THAT'S WHERE I'LL LOOK FIRST
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, MOSSBERG?
YOU SAID IT, CONNOR MOSSBERG.
NO, I MEANT
DAVID DAVE.
DAVE.. THERE'S A PLACE IN THE MOUNTAINS JOHN KNOWS IT
I WANT YOU TO TAKE JOHN AND THE DYSONS THERE AND WAIT FOR ME
I CAN TELL YOU WHERE TO PICK UP SUPPLIES AND WEAPONS EN ROUTE YOU MIGHT NEED THEM
SURE
I'LL LOOK AFTER THEM, SARAH
OH, NO WAY! NO WAY, MOM!
YES WAY, JOHN! YOU KNOW THE SCORE!
SO DO I
DANNY AND BLYTHE CAN GO WITH THE COP BUT I'M COMING WITH YOU.
20


THE SKULL SOCKET'S EMPTY.
YOU CHECKED THE AREA CAREFULLY?
YEAH, NO SIGN.
CONNOR MUST'VE STRIPPED IT OUT AND TAKEN IT. SHE KNOWS HER STUFF.
I'VE GOT ALL AVAILABLE PERSONNEL SEARCHING FOR HER.
LET'S HOPE THEY FIND HER.
SURE.
SHALL I TAKE THIS BABY DOWN TO R&D AND TURN THE BOYS LOOSE ON IT?
YOU DO THAT.
OKAY, LET'S GO!
DEEB
DIP
DEEB
DIP

BREEP
BREEP
BREEP
BREE-KLK!
YES?
TRUCK STOP
IGGY
LOS
LAURA
NEXT: GENESIS AND REVELATIONS

RENO IS SO CLOSE TO HELL, YOU CAN SEE SPARKS!

METALLIC MAYHEM

Hey there friends. Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable time through the holidays this year. I know I did with one minor exception that I think you should be aware of. Over Thanksgiving I made it back to one of my old stomping grounds in Nevada. On one evening, my wife and I were having dinner with a number of relatives and relatives of wives of cousins and so on at one of the local gaming establishments. (Now I should put my disclaimer here and say that as well as being a lovely place, there are many fine people in Northern Nevada including numerous family and friends. I usually have much fun there.)

Obviously there are dense people in every town and in all walks of life—this we can't avoid. One woman in particular magnified this notion that night. Upon replying to her question, "What do you do?" I was met with a barrage of sloppy, drunken, unintelligent banter about what a moronic thing comic books were, and how could I be dumb enough to be involved with something so second-rate and unimportant. "Nuthin' but a bunch of drawings." You can imagine my surprise (and the surprise of my relatives) that such a socially inept opinion actually exists in the '90s. I mean most of us would like to believe that with every passing decade, humans get a bit smarter and more open-minded. I'm here to remind you, that this is far from the case. And what's more, it doesn't seem to bother those people that this applies to, that the rest of us are amused by their ignorance. No shame.

Well, I've been to every state in this fine country (except Maine), and that includes Alaska, and I'm forever amazed at some of the people that are dangerously close to the rest of us at any given time. So this little story is really just to keep you informed (as if you need to be) and on the lookout for these gross individuals as you attempt to lead your unique existence. And the next time one of those underdeveloped IQs with a booze-soaked brain in a bad sweater blows their *Benson & Hedges* breath in your direction and tells you that your comic book hobby is "purely idiotic," you can recommend a nice battery acid bath in the evening before bed to sober them up, chances are they will probably believe you.

With that said, let's get on to our very first couple of letters. It's a little early for the incoming comments, but we do have these...

Dear Metallic Mayhem,

I love what you guys have done with the whole *Terminator* series. I just bought *T2*®: *Cybernetic Dawn* #1 and I was blown away. It has the touch and feel of the hit action movies. Not since Dark Horse has any company respected the series as much as you have. I have a few questions to ask you:

1. Are there going to be any more series after *Cybernetic Dawn* and *Nuclear Twilight*? If yes, is it going to continue with John and Sarah?

2. I noticed you guys illustrated scenes that were not in the movie, do you plan to do it again?

Once again, you guys did a fabulous job. The art, the story, and the return of the terminator to the comic world is a dream come true.

Thanks,
Tony Boomgaarden
Salina, KS

Congratulations Tony, you have been the first to respond with any input on our new series! Unfortunately, this doesn't entitle you to any fanfare or prizes. We will however, attempt to clear a couple of things up for you. We are thinking about doing an ongoing series after CYBERNETIC DAWN and NUCLEAR TWILIGHT run their course in April. This will in part depend on the amount of support we feel from you Terminator fans out there. If we do, it will continue with our two warriors of the wasteland, John and Sarah. To be completely honest with you, I'm not sure if we will incorporate any more of the unused scenes from the T2 film, as Mark and Dan haven't finished their respective storylines as of now. And I ought to say that we're darn glad to have the support of the good people at Lightstorm Entertainment on this series. With their blessing, we know that these are the best TERMINATOR books yet and gettin' better every issue.

Dear Dan,

Given the string of mostly unremarkable movie tie-in comics, I didn't have very high hopes for either *T2* mini-series. But, being a die-hard James Cameron fan (am I the only one who saw *Strange Days* twice and thought it was one of the best films of the year?), I ordered them both anyway.

So how are you doing? AWESOME! I just finished *Cybernetic Dawn* #1 and I must say thanks for surprising me! I'm really not that familiar with any of the creative team, but they did a hell of a job. From the opening panel on, "Lost And Found" captured the look and feel of *T2: Judgment Day* perfectly. Even the dialogue was right on target; reading the first page, I could hear Sarah Connor's calm, raspy narration from the movie. Great story, great art--I'm eagerly awaiting the next issue and the other mini-series. And what a cover! Who is Rob Prior and where have you been hiding him?!!

In closing, a few "fanboy questions." 1) I've heard about a *T2* movie/ride featuring new footage from Lightstorm. True or false, and do you know if they plan to make this new film available on tape or laserdisc for those of us who are theme-park impaired? 2) Please pass along the suggestion that the date looming in *T2* future history--August 29,1997--would make a great release date for a movie. If not "T3," then at least a theatrical release of the *T2* Director's Cut laserdisc. Could be cool, eh?

See you in a few,
Chris Coleman
Bolivar, TN.

Well Chris, you're just packed full of ideas aren't you? We may be able to use you out in Hollywood one of these days. In regard to your first question, that rumor could be true. There very well may be a new T2 theme-park ride due out in the future, but our friends down at the Lightstorm office are a smart bunch. They aren't going to give anything away until the time is right. As for your suggestions... well, some very important people involved with the ever-popular TERMINATOR receive copies of all fan mail generated by these books. You never know, maybe your ideas will work for something.

Please remember that you have to read the *Nuclear Twilight* mini-series to keep on top of what is going on here, and by all means, don't forget to pick the next issue of *Cybernetic Dawn* off the rack in February, which boasts a brilliant display of courage by our crusaders and winds up with an outrageous cliffhanger!
Take care for now folks and remember what I told you early on about the low IQs.

Thanks for the input!

Dan Shaheen

Editor

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